

READING FIRST STATE BOARD CONTRACT ABSTRACT
CYCLE II – “NEW” LEAs

Proposed contract between the **State Board of Education**, acting for and on behalf of the Arizona Department of Education (ADE), and

Name of Contracting Party(ies):

Please refer to Page 1b. of this Contract Abstract for the **list** of eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) proposing first-time participation in Arizona’s READING FIRST (RF) PROGRAM. Thirty-one (**31**) LEAs recently received technical review scores sufficiently high enough to be considered for funding as a result of their submission of Cycle II Subgrant Applications to the ADE in response to the prescribed competitive process.

Purpose:

To award READING FIRST PROGRAM funding under the established competitive process in the form of Cycle II Subgrant Awards to 31 local educational agencies, comprising 61 high-need elementary schools. All participating RF Schools are afforded scientifically based Reading research (SBRR) treatment strategies and locally designed programs of teacher education and professional development. The number of new Cycle II RF-funded classrooms may include as many as 995 teachers and other educators as well as 18,970 K–3 school pupils, respectively.

Note: LEAs may only apply for RF Subgrants if they serve 25 percent, or more, of K–3 students reading below grade level where grade level is defined as “Meeting the Standard” relative to AIMS 3rd Grade Reading scores. Also, at least 19 percent of the students served by the LEA must reside in households with incomes below the poverty line. Lastly, eligible LEAs must meet at least one of the following criteria: they must have jurisdiction over a significant number or percentage of Title I Schools identified for School Improvement *or* a geographic area that includes a designated empowerment zone/enterprise community under Part 1 Chapter 1 Subchapter U of the Internal Revenue Code *or* the highest numbers/percentages of children who are counted under allocations for NCLB Title I, Part A.

Contract Amount:

Local educational agencies submitting Cycle II Subgrant Applications developed a three-year budget, based on permissible costs. LEAs receiving technical review scores sufficiently high enough to enter into programmatic and budgetary negotiations with ADE staff were asked to further refine the dollar amounts requested. Starting with the highest scoring LEA, each “final” Subgrant Award amount was subtracted from the total of funds set aside under law for such purposes, until all available READING FIRST dollars were allocated.

The READING FIRST PROGRAM Office assures the U. S. Department of Education that it shall adhere to provisions under Section 1202(c)(2)(A) of NCLB Title I, Part B Subpart 1 regarding awards consistent with provisions for a Minimum Subgrant Amount.

Source of Funds:

Authorizing Legislation: Federal Title I, Part B, Subpart 1 READING FIRST [P.L. 107-110]
Index No.(s): 62723

Responsible Unit at Department of Education:

SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS DIVISION

Program Director: Marie Mancuso, Deputy Associate Superintendent

Program Contact: Bruce Groll, Education Program Specialist

Dates of Contract:

Subgrant Awards shall become effective on April 1, 2006
and shall terminate on June 30, 2009.

Provided an LEA is in full compliance with the intent and provisions of the law, such school district or charter school shall be able to apply in each of three years, on an annual basis, for a READING FIRST PROGRAM subgrant award.

Explanation of Contract:**Previous Contract History**

The READING FIRST PROGRAM is authorized under P.L. 107-110. Arizona had not participated previously in this type of federal program. The state's Subgrant Application Process in Cycle II differs from the first competitive cycle only to the extent that a Pre-Application was not required of eligible LEAs. The total of available READING FIRST dollars for Cycle II Subgrant Awards to districts and charter schools contemplating first-time participation was determined prior to the Technical Scoring of LEA Applications.

New Cycle II LEAs shall be funded to the extent of these available dollars. These new Cycle II districts and charter schools do not compete for funding with Arizona's currently participating Cycle I Subgrant recipients.

Method of Determining Contract Amount(s)

Final contract reimbursement ceilings for each Subgrant Application are sufficient to provide the services, support and assistance that are to be delivered to classroom teachers and other educators in eligible, participating schools throughout Arizona. Project ceilings have been set, following successful negotiations of both programmatic and fiscal issues, supported by detailed budgets that are prepared by the contracting parties, and reviewed and approved by ADE staff. Approved budgets shall be entered into the ADE's on-line Grants Management System.

Evaluation Plan

Arizona's READING FIRST PROGRAM Application to the U.S. Department of Education was posted on the *Arizona READS* Web Site following its approval. This document contains an extensively detailed Evaluation Plan, based on the highest rigor and quasi-scientific methodologies. P.L. 107-110 mandates the ongoing work of Program Evaluation by an "external" evaluator, working in conjunction with the ADE and its eligible, participating schools.

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The following table provides the **list** of eligible local educational agencies (LEAs) that have submitted Subgrant Applications under the established competitive process and have been given technical review scores high enough to be considered for funding, based on the total of dollars allocated for “new” Cycle II districts and charter schools.

NAME OF THE APPLICANT LEA			SUBGRANT AWARD AMOUNT [FINAL]
Aguila Elementary District			\$88,543
Akimel O’Otham Pee Posh Charter School, Inc.			\$158,048
Avondale Elementary District			\$686,137
Balsz Elementary District			\$393,874
Bullhead City Elementary District			\$678,259
Cartwright Elementary District			\$806,273
Cedar Unified District			\$160,039
Chino Valley Unified District			\$221,340
Creighton Elementary District			\$443,698
Dysart Unified District			\$1,035,058
Fowler Elementary District			\$667,873
Friendly House, Inc.			\$114,036
Gadsden Elementary District			\$888,300
Harvest Power Community Development Group, Inc.			\$179,763
Humboldt Unified District			\$447,019
Littlefield Unified District			\$156,805
Mary C O’Brien Accommodation District (Consortium)			\$1,147,836
Mohave Valley Elementary District			\$199,760
Murphy Elementary District			\$166,593
Naco Elementary District			\$121,750
Phoenix Advantage Charter School, Inc.			\$215,057
Phoenix Elementary District			\$870,530
Pima Unified District			\$221,961
Pinon Unified District			\$233,585
Sahuarita Unified District			\$134,665
St. Johns Unified District			\$190,319
Tombstone Unified District			\$253,917
Tuba City Unified District			\$410,955
Wellton Elementary			\$146,220
Williams Unified District (Consortium)			\$387,764
Window Rock Unified District			\$209,605
Total:			\$12,035,582
Estimated Impact of READING FIRST PROGRAM Awards			
LEAs	Schools	Students	Teaching Staff
31	61	18,970	995

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